

# Community News

## EES receives community and military assistance with installation of new playground



Elba Elementary School was fortunate to have the assistance of Warrant Officer Candidate Gray Flight Class 00-10 from Ft. Rucker in the installation of its new playground. The playground was purchased for the school by the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). Alabama State Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer donated a portion of the money used by the PTO to the school. Additional funds were donated by local businesses and individuals and were acquired through PTO fund raisers. The completed playground will total around \$35,000. The equipment was delivered and put into place in mid-June. Elba Elementary was left with the job of making the playground surface safe for student use. This involved the removal and reinstallation of some old equipment, building a border of landscape timbers to hold pine chips which will serve to cushion falls, spreading two dumptruck loads of pine chips, building two flower beds to make the playground more attractive and digging holes and installing two signs recognizing those assisting with the purchase of the equipment. The Warrant Officer Candidates, PTO officers, playground committee members, school administrators and a few eager parents began working at around 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 23, and worked until around 5 p.m. that afternoon. By the end of the day, the playground was very close to completion. Additional work will be done during the summer to have the playground ready for students to enjoy when school starts on Aug. 4.

According to school officials, this has been a very successful project that will benefit every student at Elba Elementary. Officials insist that it is a wonderful example of a community and a school working together to accomplish an extremely worthwhile goal.

"Elba Elementary greatly appreciates the hard work of the Warrant Officer Candidates from Ft. Rucker and the efforts of all involved. We wouldn't have this much-needed new playground without you."



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Contest



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 5

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 13, 2000

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Ad Insert

MINOR ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THREE-YEAR PLAN

## Commission goes behind closed doors to discuss pending legal action

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission met in its bi-monthly meeting Monday and interjected a forty-minute executive session in the middle of its agenda.

Commissioners went behind closed doors for close to forty minutes to discuss with their attorneys, Kenneth Fuller and Joe Cassidy, the legal action filed against the commission by former chief juvenile probation officer Eva McGrath-Love.

There is a motion presently before the courts filed by county attorneys to have the lawsuit dismissed because McGrath-Love failed to submit substantial evidence in support of her case. They further contend that she did not take the necessary steps to obtain a hearing following her dismissal by District Judge Steve Blair who oversees the juvenile probation officers.

A hearing on the county's motion to dismiss has been set for Friday, July 21. The commissioners made no comment and took no action after coming out of executive session Monday.

Turning to other matters of business, County Engineer Randy Tindell presented several matters requiring action by the commissioners.

He commented that the highway department was presently in the final year of a three-year plan adopted by the commission two years ago. Tindell noted that several roads are scheduled for leveling and resurfacing with chip seal, and since the travel study (traffic count) was made on some of these roads the conditions have changed and other roads are more traveled or the need for resurfacing is greater. One

such case is Co. Rd. 119.

"The traffic on Co. Rd. 119 is about twice as much as the traffic on [Co. Rd.] 134," said Tindell. In the initial study, the grades (traffic counts & condition) were about the same on both roads.

At the request of Commissioner Kayo Lewis, in whose the district the roads are located, Tindell requested a resolution by the commission inserting Co. Rd. 119 into the plan in place of Co. Rd. 134. Commissioners passed the resolution.

In a similar action, the commission agreed to insert Co. Rd. 305 in place of Co. Rds. 306 & 308 in the final phase of the three-year plan. Tindell commented that "numerous logging activities and other heavy truck activities have severely deteriorated that roadway" since the grading of the roads was initially performed in preparation for the three-year plan.

Tindell also noted that Co. Rds. 306 & 308 had been designated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) as minor collector roads, and it appears that there may be funding through the FHA for minor collector roads in the near future.

"We would not need to spend county money on something that the federal money could be spent on," said Tindell. County Road 305 is not designated as a major or minor collector road and would not qualify for any federal funds.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook, in whose district these roads are located, concurred with Tindell's request.

Commissioners gave Tindell the go-ahead in making application for state funds in the updating of Co. Rds. 409, 412 & 201.

## Candidate qualifying underway in Elba's mayor & city council races

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Candidate qualifying is underway in the mayor and city council races in Elba. A total of six candidates have qualified, and additional candidates are expected to join the list before the July 18th deadline.

Qualifying for mayor is incumbent James Grimes.

The lone candidate for District #1 on the City Council is political newcomer Tim Williams. A Letter to the Editor in this edition of *The Elba Clipper* from incumbent Winzel Gray indicates he doesn't plan to seek reelection.

There is only one candidate qualified in District #2 at press time. Another political newcomer, David

Bandstra, has qualified in that race. Incumbent John W. Sharpless is moving out of the district and therefore can't be a candidate for that seat in the upcoming election.

District #4 is the most popular race thus far, with three candidates. Incumbent Ben Carpenter and political newcomers Harold Spicer and Lamar Hall have qualified in that race.

In District #5, incumbent Ronnie Hammond turned in his qualifying papers on Monday and is the only qualified candidate thus far.

Finally in City Council District #3, incumbent Harold Bannin qualified late Tuesday and is the only candidate in that race at press time.

## David Bandstra seeking District 2 Seat on Elba City Council

David Bandstra announced this week that he has qualified and will seek the position of council person for District 2 on the Elba City Council in the upcoming municipal election.

Bandstra is a graduate of and has a B.S. degree in education from Athens State College. He is currently employed at Vivian B. Adams School in Ozark.

David is married to the former Vicki Taylor of Elba. She has been a teacher of special education for 24 years in the Elba City School System. They attend First Baptist Church. David also has been an Elba fireman for some 15 years.

Bandstra stated that some of his concerns for the city are the levee rebuild project and public safety (fire, police and rescue).

"We have one of the best equipped fire departments in Southeast Alabama, and with the upgraded water system we should have little problem lowering our ISO rating which would mean a significant savings on our citizen's homeowners insurance," Bandstra said. "If elected, I would look forward to working with the mayor and council to serve not only District 2 but all the citizens of Elba."



David Bandstra

He also asked for and received permission to place the following roads in line to receive 2001 Federal Aids Funds for resurfacing providing the county does not receive "extra" money through federal funding. They were Co. Rds. 321, 460 & 636.

In the last commission meeting, Tindell asked for and received permission to send out bids on garbage trucks. In connection with that move, Monday he asked for permission to send out bid requests for garbage cans as well. This was approved.

Finally, he asked for permission to send out bid requests for materials used in applying chip seal to road surfaces.

"We have gone through the numbers and we feel like we can save between 50 and 70 thousand dollars if the county provided all the materials and just contracted with someone to lay those down for us," said Tindell.

The commissioners concurred with the county engineer and honored his request to send out bid requests for the placement of county-provided materials for G treatment resurfacing.

In a housekeeping matter, the commission adopted two resolutions - one was a fair labor housing resolution and the other concerned a procurement policy (tabled by state law). Both were in connection with the senior citizen center construction project recently approved by the commission.

Sheriff Ben Moates was present in Monday's meeting (as requested by the commission to do on a monthly basis) to report on any major problems that presently exist at the county jail.

He commented on the three following items: (1) The air conditioning unit located over the intake area was causing some problem - leaking water through the ceiling. It was worked on last week, but the problem had not been fixed; (2) The seal on the freezer door (food storage) in the kitchen area is not working properly - causing the cooling unit to overload; (3) There was a problem over the weekend with two toilets in the cell block area.

Since the county's maintenance department does not presently have a qualified heating & cooling technician, the county administrator was instructed to get an outside

The council also unanimously passed a resolution requested by Mayor James Grimes, addressed to U. S. Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, urging approval of funding of the authorized and long promised levee repair and rehabilitation. The authorized funding for the Elba levee is \$12,900,000.

Grimes also urged local citizens to contact members of the legislative branch and remind them of the importance of this project being in the Water and Energy appropriations budget for the upcoming year. The U. S. Senate version of that budget is being drafted now, therefore immediate response is vital.

The Elba City Council meeting Monday evening was again short and routine with only a brief 7 minute executive session with the city attorney breaking the routine. The announced purpose of this closed session was an employee matter.

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**LOT OF DIGGING GOING ON...** However, there are no archaeological digs in progress in Elba. All of the excavation that has been taking place in several different locations throughout the city of Elba in recent months is connected to two major projects. One is the replacing or putting in of new sewer lines and the other is the repairing of old storm drains and the installation of new ones. The sewer projects are nearing completion and the repairing or the replacing of roadways should be completed in the near future. A major portion of the storm drain project is also nearing completion (along Putnam Street, Claxton Avenue and Cordelia) with another portion of the project area should alleviate the street flooding that has been occurring in that area after heavy downpours in the past. Residents in the area of the storm drain work remain in fact and unobstructed. In some cases the lines have had to be relocated. The inset is a portion of the new storm drains that are being installed on Claxton Avenue. That is what Street Superintendent Billy Meeks (in white shirt) is looking at.

The total cost of all these on-going projects is almost \$2.5 million. The sewer projects are being funded (\$2 million plus) with low interest loans through the federal government while the storm drain projects are being funded (\$285,000 plus) with matching disaster grants.

## No funds approved for levee repair

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

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Dean Blair and a Community Watch group from the Danley Crossroads area. The group met at the Senior Citizens Center for a meal and discussions on Community Watch efforts.

Whitworth also announced that Animal Control Officer Sam Andrews is retiring and the city will be advertising for a replacement employee. The chief noted this would not be an easy position to fill, considering all that is involved with the position.

The Elba Police Department dispatchers will begin assisting with the dispatching of county deputy sheriffs at the request of Sheriff Ben Moates, according to Whitworth. He explained this would be very little additional work on the Elba department and would speed up getting deputies to a problem spot.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow said the sewer contractor is running behind and still has some lift stations work to complete. He added that the storm drain project is progressing and work began this week on the Martin Luther King portion of the work.

Mayor Grimes said he has begun working on the budget for the new

Elba man charged with 2 counts of 1st degree rape

An Elba man has been arrested and charged with rape and sodomy. Elba police have charged Anton Smith, 32, of 847 East Davis Street, Elba, with two counts of rape in the first degree, two counts of sodomy in the first degree and one count of kidnapping in the first degree.

According to EPD Investigator Johnny P. Senn, the arrest was made during the course of an investigation involving a 14-year-old female. Allegedly, the teenager was walking in the Mulberry Heights area when she was attacked by a black male.

Smith was placed in the Coffee County Jail with bonds set at \$30,000 on each count - a total of \$120,000. He remains in custody at press time.

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## NOTICE

Anyone experiencing a water shortage due to the drought should call one of the following numbers. If the water is being used for human consumption, call the Coffee County EMA office at (334) 894-5415; If the water is for livestock (cattle, poultry, etc.) consumption, call the USDA Service Center at (334) 894-5581



## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

It would be real easy to get the big head over three e-mail letters we received Tuesday morning. Except we know the reality of both sides of the situation. It seems that some group we have never heard of is trying to raise \$78 million dollars to buy a minority interest in some unnamed professional basketball team. That probably goes on all the time, but for three separate pleas for that kind of money to come to this desk is more than comical, it is dumb! But then when a person thinks about the nature of the internet, it isn't so dumb after all. They write one promotional letter, access the data base(s) of e-mail addresses and start sending. It doesn't cost them one penny more to send the message to every e-mail address they can gather up and out of the millions sent, they might find one sucker who actually has that kind of funds and is willing to give some stranger the money to invest for him or her in the above unnamed basketball team. That is another one of the advantages to the internet for those, honest or not so honest, expert sales people in this world to separate people from their hard earned money . . . either bits at the time or at \$78 million dollar clips.

A friend commented last week that our Brainstorm comments about the levee funds (or lack there of) indicated we were in the dumps over the whole matter. Well, we are, or more accurately . . . we were. Now that reality has settled in, we are ready to hit the bushes again and work with the other people of Elba in getting the levee reconstruction project funded, as promised. We still are in favor of saving the oysters, the birds, etc. but somehow or the other, our first concern is self preservation. When the levee is repaired and our friends are out of these flood waters around Elba, Alabama, then bring up the subject of the declining oyster population in any or all the bays of the world and you have our promise of being justly concerned. Until then mister politician, HELP us American people, as promised!

The older we get, the less our understanding of politics, or more accurately, the people active in politics. Right now the lack of candidates in the Elba municipal elections is at the top of our puzzle list. For months there have been a number of names of potential candidates floating around. Some of these confirmed they would definitely be a candidate . . . at least for council seats. Now, we are not out soliciting folks to run and/or to oppose those who have signed up, but gosh . . . is it a lack of interest, scared of the job, or like yours truly and thankful someone else will do the job? Bulletin! Bulletin! Bulletin! Right at press time Elba finally got a candidate in all districts.

It is going to be interesting to watch the National Democratic Convention schedule develop. It seems that Miss Hillary feels she should be a major player in the convention. (Actually she probably wants to look powerful to the voters in New York). However, the Gore folks are fighting an image of being a flunky for the Clinton and want the convention to be a Gore affair. If Clinton gets one night as keynote speaker and Hillary gets the second night, then Al Gore folks are afraid their candidate will continue to look like the Vice-President (or assistant) and not leadership material, in the closing two nights of the event. But they have a problem in asserting this concern very strongly, as it could cause a split between the Clinton and Gore camps and do even worse damage to Gore's campaign. Ain't it fun to sit on here in South Alabama and know that the only worries in a person's mind are just who will be the speaker(s) at the upcoming National Democratic Convention.

The Wiregrass area is getting some scattered rain showers of late. The showers are spotty but are still appreciated. Ironically, we read a news article about Evergreen having flooding in the streets a couple of weeks ago. Our showers haven't come close to that!

**NOTICE • NOTICE • NOTICE**  
LAST DAY FOR MUNICIPAL QUALIFYING  
The last day for candidates to qualify to run for municipal office is Tuesday, July 18. The qualifying form must be filed with the municipal clerk by 5:00 p.m.

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## EDITORIAL

### Casinos Gambling and the U. S. Constitution

by U.S. Rep. Bob Riley, 3rd District - Alabama

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians want to build a multi-million dollar casino in Wetumpka, a peaceful community on the outskirts of Montgomery. If we sit idly by while their plans proceed, the sound of slot machines and roulette wheels might well be heard just a few miles from our state Capitol — the very institution that has time and again said no to casino gambling. As it plainly declares in Alabama's Constitution, casinos are against state law. The people have repeatedly said that they don't want black jack and poker being played within our sovereign boundaries. However, as ridiculous as it may seem, our laws — your electoral and constitutional decisions for more than a century — may not carry enough legal weight when

### Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, July 3, 2000, investigated the following incidents: four thefts of properties, six harassments, two illegal possessions of a controlled substance, one receiving stolen property, two assaults, three domestic violence, one carrying a concealed weapon without a permit, one property, one VPL, two menacing, one fraudulent use of a credit card, two harassing communications, one disorderly conduct, and one criminal mischief.

The following arrests were made: six for harassment, two for illegal possession of a controlled substance, one for theft of property, one for receiving stolen property, two for rape, two for sodomy, one for kidnapping, one for carrying a concealed weapon without a permit, one for VPL, and one for assault.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: twenty-one for speeding, seventeen for violation of the seat belt law, one for running a stop sign, six for harassment, two for violation of the child restraint law, nine for an expired tag, two for improper passing, two for driving while driver's license are suspended, two for driver's license not in possession, two for driving while driver's license is revoked, one for no tag, one for reckless driving, one for expired driver's license, one for improper tag, and one for no driver's license. Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

**MONDAY, JULY 3:** River stage - 2:17 (6:16 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Plant Avenue (8:53 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Forest Lake Drive (12:20 p.m.).  
**TUESDAY, JULY 4:** River stage - 2:12 (6:34 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Brookdale (11:11 a.m.); Fire department dispatched to Mr. Henry's (8:33 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on AL Hwy. 189S (10:10 p.m.); Fire department dispatched to a tree fire on Martin Luther King Drive (11:02 p.m.); Disturbance reported in Birch's Trailer Court.

### BULLETIN BOARD

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** Court-house: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1212.  
• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon-First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.  
• **ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN.** - Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.  
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall.  
• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. City Hall.  
• **GRIFF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St.  
• **MAGGIE GARRETT CLASSROOM** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.  
• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.  
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 1st Thurs. 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office.  
• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Thurs. 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.  
• **MASONIC LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.  
• **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.  
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8:12 noon - 12:30 - 430 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858.  
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House.  
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon Colony Inn, Enterprise.  
• **AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 1st Tuesday afternoon, City Hall Conference Room.  
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.  
• **CIVIL AIR PATROL** - Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport - Driscoll hangar.  
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - Mondays - 6:30 p.m. - EHS Cafeteria.  
• **ZION CHAPEL CRIME WATCH** is First Thursday night - 7:00 p.m. of each month at the 22 Fire Department.  
• **WOODMAN OF THE WORLD LODGE 192** - 4th Thursday night of the month @ 7:00 p.m. at the Woodman Lodge located at 510 W. Simmons Street.

balanced against the federal courts and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. Last month, Congressman Terry Everett of Enterprise and I tried to tip the scales back in our favor. In a letter to Gov. Don Siegelman, we asked his administration to do everything possible to prevent the casino from being built. Since Indian reservations are considered tribal grounds — Creek Nation land in this case — the Poarch Band mistakenly believes they can ignore Alabama law as long as they don't violate the regulations of the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs, the federal agency that oversees reservations. However, the proposed casino site exists within the boundaries of Alabama, and casino operations would directly

### ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of July 3, 2000 through July 9, 2000. They were: Daisy Rhodes, Melinda Jones, Timothey Thigpen, Frances Bryan, Minnie Matthews, Clayton Dye, Ella Fair Hudson, Evelyn Leverett, Anna Daniels, Vera Bryan, James Smith, Rayford Hodge, Elizabeth Williams, Beatrice Carley, and Renee Parrish.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Elizabeth Ware, Ed Eliland, Annise Coleman, Garry Maddox, Daisy Rhodes, Annie Ruth Mack, Edmond Hutchinson, Melinda Jones, Mattie Belcher, Lenora Burks, Minnie Matthews, Clayton Dye, Tim Thigpen, Ella Hudson, Evelyn Leverett, and Beatrice Carley.

### Southeast Insurance & Real Estate

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear District One Citizens:

I've decided not to seek re-election this time for city council. I know a lot of people want me to run, but believe me I had fun.

We accomplished a great deal of things. I'm very proud of the park, and hopefully we'll get a tennis court soon. And, I've talked to Senator Holley about securing funds for a pool at Mulberry Park.

One of the many reasons I won't

seek re-election is because I plan to move out of District One in the future.

Thank you all for all the support you showed me during my tenure. The mayor and the other council members have been great and a very big plus for the city. Continue to support city government and please vote.

Hopefully, if it's God's will, I'll see you in some form of govern-

ment office in four more years. Thank you, and I'll continue to love you and may God richly bless you. Winzell Gray

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WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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**American Red Cross**  
Courses Offered



**DANIELS RETIRES FROM EGI**... Mary Jo Daniels was honored with a reception on June 29, 2000 recognizing her retirement from full-time status at Elba General Hospital. Mrs. Daniels began working at the facility on October 22, 1978. She has served in both in the nursing service and business office operations at Elba General. Her kindness and concern for the well-being of others during the past 22 years has earned her much respect from the community, and her presence will be missed by both fellow staff members and the community. In the picture above Elba General Hospital Director of Nursing Jan Wicker, R.N. (left) is shown presenting Mrs. Daniels with a plaque expressing appreciation from the facility for her many years of service.

### News From ESJC

**COLLEGE DAYS FOR RETIRED PERSONS** returns by popular demand to Enterprise State Junior College on Thursday and Friday, Aug. 10-11. Retired persons enjoy a very special, enjoyable day of education and leisure activities ranging from arts and crafts to family life and consumer issues. This program is offered in cooperation with the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service - Coffee, Dale and Geneva counties and Senior Friends. The program begins at 8 a.m. on Aug. 10. The \$20 fee includes two luncheons. There is a registration deadline of Aug. 3. For more information, call 393-ESJC, ext. 234.

**ESJC POPULAR SPECIAL INTEREST COURSE**. Using the Micro-computer - Level II, is offered this summer semester. This course is designed for those who have experience with keyboarding. Participants will learn the concepts of computer hardware components and database management and spreadsheets using Microsoft Works software. Successful completion of Using A Microcomputer - Level I is recommended but not required. A 3 1/2" diskette is required for the first class. There is a \$30 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is July 31. Class meets Mondays and Tuesdays, Aug. 7-15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Space is limited to the first 15 to register. For more information, call 393-ESJC, ext. 234.

### Progress Against Cancer

Progress Against Cancer (NAPS) - By learning more about the possible causes of cancer and the benefits of early screening, women may be able to lower their risk. "Lung cancer is now the number one cancer killer for women, followed by breast and colorectal cancer," said Ruth Merkatz, R.N., Ph.D., director of Pfizer Women's Health. Breast cancer is still a leading cause of death - approximately 44,000 women died of breast cancer in 1998. Despite this many women do not get regular mammograms. It's also estimated that one in 150 women, ages 40 to 59 will develop colorectal cancer, yet half of all American adults have never been screened for colon cancer. At a recent roundtable symposium by Pfizer Women's Health, medical research and policy experts talked about how to reduce women's cancer risk and improve their odds of surviving cancer as part of the "next wave" of women's health. According to the panelists, knowing the following risk factors may help: Tobacco (smoking is estimated to account for 90 percent of cancer cases) • Diet (high meat and animal fat intake may be linked to increased rates of certain cancers) • Finally, early diagnosis may lead to more successful treatment, say the panelists and can improve survival rates dramatically. For more information, visit [www.healthylifechoices.com](http://www.healthylifechoices.com) or visit [www.pfizer.com](http://www.pfizer.com).

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## AREA DEATHS

**MACIE MARIE GIDEON**

Mrs. Macie Marie Gideon, age 60, of 27211 Highway 87 N., Elba, Ala., died July 7, 2000 at Medical Center Enterprise. Funeral services were held July 10, 2000 at Elba Deliverance Tabernacle Church with Rev. Jack Gideon, Rev. Ray Stinson, Rev. Ruby Nell Lawson and Rev. Shirley Hatcher officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband: Rev. Troy Jack Gideon (1st Elba); two daughters: Elbie Rose Mills, Elba, Lynda Machele Breidenstein, Dothan; two sons: Troy Jack Gideon 2nd and Lee Richard Gideon, both of Elba; three sisters: Scharrie McCoy, Colo., Woonita Lidster, Grand Prairie, Texas, Lynette Lyon, Grand Prairie, Texas; one brother: Maurice Wayne Lidster, Duncanville, Texas; and eight grandchildren.

**FRANCES BOLLING JONES**

Mrs. Frances Bolling Jones, age 71, of Dothan, Ala. (formerly of Elba, Ala.), died April 4, 2000 in a Dothan hospital.

Mrs. Jones was born in Elba, Ala., June 29, 1929 to the late Mr. John Bernard Bolling and Mrs. Ouida Bolling Gaskins.

Funeral services were held April 8, 2000 at North Highland Baptist Church with Rev. Robert L. Jones officiating. Burial followed at Gates of Heaven Cemetery with Varner Memorial Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Jones was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd C. Jones Sr.

Survivors include her daughter: Linda Jones Williams (three sons: Fredrick Jones (deceased), Keegan Ala., Floyd C. Jones Jr. (Renee), Woodstock, Md., Clarence E. Jones (Effie), New Castle, Del.; one sister: Clara Bolling Yelverton (Wylie); one sister-in-law: Mary Johnson (James), Atlanta, Ga.; her brother-in-law: Rubin Jan Jones, Dothan; 16 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren and several other relatives.

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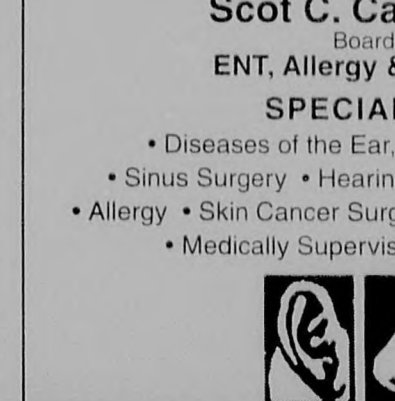
**SYBIL JANICE ADAMS**

Mrs. Sybil Adams McFarlin, age 65, of Cincinnati, Ohio (formerly of Elba, Ala.), died June 7, 2000 at Jewish Hospital in Kenwood.

She was the daughter of the late Dave and Evelyn Adams of Elba. She graduated from Elba High School in 1950 and Alabama State University in 1954 with a Bachelor's degree in education. She taught in the Cincinnati Public Schools for number of years. Mrs. McFarlin retired from teaching in 1989.

Funeral services were held June 12, 2000 at St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church. Burial followed at Oak Hill Cemetery in Springdale with Thompson, Hall and Jordan Funeral Home of Forest Park, Ohio directing.

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# COMMUNITY

## EHS Class of '52 gets together

Fifteen members of the Class of '52 and 8 guests enjoyed an outdoor picnic at the home of Ralph and Pat Sharpless on Sat., July 1st. They began arriving around 10 a.m. and spent the day recalling their school days. Those attending from out of state were Glen Vaughan, Charlotte, NC, and Doris Tillman Morrow from San Antonio, TX.

Elba First Baptist Church on Sunday morning, July 2, followed by lunch at the Elba Country Club. A patriotic flower arrangement was placed in the foyer of the church in memory of 12 classmates. These include: Carlton Whitman, Martin Boutwell, Wesley Parker, Dykes Chandler, Eloise Boswell Scroggins, Jerry Brunson, Ronald Courson, Jimmy Gohagen, Edward Kelley, Mack Moore, Wilson Conway, and Mildred Bouyer Perry.

Get-well wishes and flowers were sent to one of their teachers, Carolyn Brunson, who was at home recovering from surgery. Classmates living in the Elba area plan to get together in August to plan a 48th class reunion for Elba Homecoming this fall.

Herb Society to meet in Troy on July 20th

The public is cordially invited to attend the July 20 meeting of the Herb Society at 5:30 p.m. in the main building of the Pike Pioneer Museum on U.S. Highway 231 N. in Troy. A special presentation will be given by Darryl Patton on the identification and use of plants as medicinal and edible herbs. Mr. Patton is a special education teacher with the Gadsden City School System. In addition, he is an author and lecturer and teaches wilderness and survival skills around the country. Mr. Patton can identify and use over 3,000 varieties of native and introduced plants. This noted author also guides groups into the Peruvian Amazon on wilderness expeditions where they live with various Indian Tribes and study medicinal and edible plants. These expeditions record the skills and ceremonies of the native tribes. He is a past publisher of Wilderness Way Magazine. Another book he is in the works about Euell Gibbons, the man from the old Grapenuts commercial who talked about eating wild plants. For further information, contact Mr. Alma Bodiford at (334) 527-8863.



Ashleigh Waddail wins 4-H Public Speaking Contest

Ashleigh Waddail is pictured above with the trophy and money she recently won through the 4-H Public Speaking Contest. She won the local competition in her sixth grade class at school, then represented Elba Elementary School at the Coffee County Speaking Contest in March. This time, Ashleigh also won first place and received a trophy.

June 15-16, the District 4-H Round-Up was held at Troy State University. Ashleigh represented Coffee County and gave a 3 to 5 minute speech on "Ways To Say No." After competing, Ashleigh was named the new District Junior Oratorical Public Speaking Winner.

She is the daughter of Steve and Melanie Waddail. Grandparents are Freddie and JoAnne Rainer, and great-grandmother is Bonnie Thomson.

Ashleigh would like to give a special thanks to Angela Hughes, Coffee County 4-H agent, and Dean Blair, D.A.R.E. officer, for their time and extra encouragement.

The 20th Annual South Alabama Fiddlers Convention set for July 15th

The 20th Annual South Alabama Fiddlers Convention will be held Saturday, July 15, at the Escambia County High School auditorium in Atmore at 5 p.m. Fiddlers from across Alabama, Florida and Mississippi will compete for the official "South Alabama Fiddler's Championship," as well as over \$2,000 in cash prizes. Categories include fiddlers, banjo, bluegrass bands, fiddle, bass, guitar, mandolin, and mandolin. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 for children and are available at the door.

Kindergarten registration ongoing throughout summer at Elba Elementary School

Kindergarten registration will be ongoing throughout the summer. The Elba City Schools offices will be closed during the week of July 3-7 but will reopen on July 10. School officials will be available to register students Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. from the tenth of August until school starts. At the time of registration, the school will need a copy of the student's birth certificate, social security card, and an Alabama immunization record. Students planning to attend kindergarten for the 2000-2001 school year should be registered prior to Kindergarten Jumpstart which will be held on July 31 and Aug. 1. The 2000-2001 school year will officially begin on Aug. 4 which will be a half-day of school. Elba Elementary School students will be released at 11:10 a.m. on Aug. 4.

## ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### SUPPLY LIST FOR 2000-2001

#### KINDERGARTEN

White Elmer's School Glue (No other brand, no gels and no glue sticks)  
Crayola Crayons (8 Count - 2 Boxes - Jumbo or Regular)  
\$10.00 for a Kindergarten T-Shirt  
3 Rolls of Paper Towels Each 9 Weeks, 100 Sheet Spiral Notebook, Pencils (Jumbo or Regular), Scissors - Fiskars Brand Only, Kinder Mat - Red/Blue Trifold, Hand Sanitizer, 2 Packs of Loose Leaf Construction Paper - No Tear Outs  
Boys: Quart Size Ziploc Bags, Band Aids  
Girls: Gallon Size Ziploc Bags, Kleenex

Please send one complete change of clothes (Shirts, Pants & Underwear) in case your child has an accident. These clothes will stay in your child's book bag until needed. Please put your child's name on both sides, top and bottom, of their mats. Also, put their name on their supplies - glue, scissors, pencils, jackets and on each separate crayon.

**FIRST GRADE**  
Rolls of Paper Towels, Fiskars Scissors, Elmer's School Glue, Number 2 Pencils, Back Pack, 1 Box of Facial Tissue, Band Aids, \$3 for Writing Paper and Construction Paper for the Year, 2 Bottles of Hand Sanitizer (Not Liquid Soap), Pack of 16 Crayons, Supply Pouch - (Not Plastic), 2 Pocket Folders  
Boys: Gallon Ziploc Bags  
Girls: Quart Ziploc Bags

**2ND GRADE**  
Crayola Crayons, Fiskars Scissors, Construction Paper (No Tear Outs), 1 Three Subject Spiral Composition Book, 2 Boxes of Kleenex, 2 Liquid Soap Refills, 4 Large Glue Sticks, 1 Ten Pack of Pencils, 3 Packs of Ruled Notebooks, Paper Towels, Colored Pencils, Supply Pouch, Liquid Soap

**3RD GRADE**  
1 Pair of Fiskars Scissors, 1 Stenographer's Pad, 2 Pocket Folders

Hospice Training for Nurses and Social Workers is scheduled at ESJC in August

Hospice Training for Nurses and Social Workers is a special interest seminar to be held at Enterprise State Junior College this summer semester. The program teaches how best to serve the needs of terminally ill patients with topics covering a preview of Wiregrass Hospice, behavior management for the Alzheimer patient, and time management. The program is offered cooperatively between Wiregrass

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# Area News

## ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA - 897-2006

Scripture: Psalm 23

\*\*\*Thinking of you, praying for you: The Moses Family, Mattie Belcher, Johnnie Velterson, Mary Alice Blue, Mary Bell Belcher, Lawrence Bryant, Collis Belcher, Jessica Pearson, Annise Coleman, Evelyn Manning, Evelyn Flournoy. \*\*\*Happy Birthday: Junior Kelley July 13 and Tina K. Williams - July 13.

\*\*\*Vacation Bible School at Rocky Head MB Church of Elba, July 17-21, at 6 p.m. Theme: Celebrate. Jesus Loves Me. Regardless, 4 classes: Class 1 - (8 and Under) Juanita Brooks/Rita Harwick; Class 2 - (9-12) Cathynette Cross/Juanita Brooks; Class 3 - (13-17) Maxwell Hooks/Debra Hooks; Class 4 - (18 and Above) Pastor Williams.

\*\*\*Homecoming Services at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, County Rd. 528, Elba, will be July 16 at 2 p.m. The sermon will be given by Rev. Darrell Caldwell, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Elba.

\*\*\*Annual Revival of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Elba, July 16-21, at 7:15 p.m. nightly. The evangelist will be Rev. Frazier Reynolds, associate minister of Shady Grove Baptist Church in Daleville.

\*\*\*Annual Session of the Mulberry Missionary Baptist District Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress to be held at the Mulberry Baptist Educational Building in Elba on July 14 and 15. The session will assemble at 9:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. Rev. J.G. Chatman will be the moderator.

\*\*\*Benefit Program for Mrs. Patricia Holloway, daughter of Sis. Doris Waters, will be sponsored by they Prayer Warriors on Saturday, July 15, at Shady Grove A.M.E. Church in Elba. The benefit program will begin at 7 p.m., and everyone is cordially invited.

\*\*\*Visitors  
\*Tiny and Sarah Miller, Rome, N.Y.; Sabrina and Candace Wilkerson, Rich, N.Y.; Tillman Wilkerson and Sandra, Ula, N.Y.; Joycel Adams Collins, Bloomfield, Ct.; and Leroy Stoudemire, Detroit, Mich. were visitors of relatives and friends in Opp and Elba for a family reunion during the Fourth of July holidays.

\*\*\*The Mulberry Missionary District Ministers, Deacons and Laymen's Union will meet with the New Mt. Pleasant MB Church in Troy on July 30 at 9:45 a.m.



Milton E. Belcher to serve on Bd. of Directors of Univ. of AL Law School Foundation, Tuscaloosa

Milton E. Belcher was nominated and has accepted to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Alabama Law School Foundation, Tuscaloosa. This board always has been comprised of leading and well respected attorneys and business leaders from throughout the state and beyond. "I am indeed honored to accept my nomination," Milton said. Milton "Milt" is one of nine children of Erna Mae Lindsey Belcher, Elba, and the late Grover Belcher Sr. Belcher graduated from Elba High School in 1966 and was the first black to integrate the school. Leaving Elba, he applied to only

one college - Tuskegee Institute, graduating in 1970 with a BS degree in political science. His Army ROTC scholarship helped to make his degree a reality.

Belcher postponed his obligation to the Army after graduation and decided instead to attend law school at the University of Kentucky, only to be inducted into the Army before graduation. He became an officer in Asomara, Ethiopia. His 3-year stay in the Army ended in 1974 with an honorable discharge at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He transferred to the University of Alabama with the aid of an Earl Warren Legal Scholarship graduating from the law school there in 1976. In Tuscaloosa, Belcher was a clerk in the law firm of England, Thompson and Fort, the first black law firm in the city. He earned an MS in Criminal Justice in 1980 from Auburn University in Montgomery.

He came to Montgomery after law school through an appointment as an assistant attorney general. He was appointed soon thereafter to his current position as Chief of the Civil Rights/Constitutional Litigation of Incarcerated Persons Division.

Belcher directs the College and Law School Internship Program for the Attorney General's office and coordinates the Attorney General's

Office Continuing Legal Education Program for all state attorneys. He currently holds an attorney IV position, making him the first and only African American to hold this position.

Away from the office, Belcher has written extensively on the plight of the black male. In 1990, he published "Arresting the Plague Among Black Males," an updated version of his 1988 publication, "The Black Male in Alabama - A Demographic Portrait."

Belcher is an adjunct professor at Jones Law School, Auburn University, at Montgomery and Tuskegee University. The governor of Alabama appointed him to serve on the General Advisory Council for J.E. Drake State Technical College.

Belcher is licensed to practice in the state courts of Alabama and Washington D.C. He also is licensed to practice before the 5th and 11th Circuit Courts of Appeals and the Alabama and U.S. Supreme Courts.

Belcher is the father of three children, Kenya Baraka, Jamaal Kohle and Kanika (Ki Ki). Belcher and his wife, Betty Jean Franklin Belcher, live in Montgomery. God bless ya, "Milt."

Today is a good day, be grateful!  
Eria

Revival services to be held at Brantley Church of God

Brantley Church of God in Brantley will be having Revival Services July 14-16. The evangelist will be Rev. Ronnie Brooks.

Child Development Workshop planned at ESJC  
Adults involved in public and home day care, and other programs for young children will be interested in the Child Development Workshop to be held at Enterprise State Junior College on Saturday, Aug. 5, from 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The pre-registration fee is \$25 if received by July 31, and \$25 if received after that date. For more information and course objectives call 393-ESJC, ext. 234.

### COFFEE COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION

The annual meeting of the  
**COFFEE COUNTY FARMERS FEDERATION**

will be held on  
**FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2000 at 6:30 p.m.**

at The Elba High School Auditorium  
**THE COFFEE COUNTY MISS AGRICULTURE PAGEANT**  
and  
**COFFEE COUNTY TALENT FIND**

will be held at this same time. There will be  
**ENTERTAINMENT and DOOR PRIZES.**  
ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

You are invited to the  
*Grand Opening*  
of the  
**New Hope Senior Citizen's Center**  
on  
*Sunday, July 23, 2000*  
at 2:00 p.m.

There will be a ribbon cutting  
and a walk through the building

A Host of Special People will be present  
including Senator Holley, Representative Spencer,  
Local and County Officials, Members of the  
Regional Planning Commission, also representatives  
from the Council on Aging will be present.  
Don't miss it!

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<b>FRESH YELLOW SWEET CORN</b> 5/99¢ EACH	<b>BRYAN BUTCHER FRESH PORK TENDERLOIN</b> \$3.99 POUND	<b>"SOUTHERN" EASTERN PEACHES</b> 59¢ POUND	
<b>ASSORTED FLAVORS BLUE BELL ICE CREAM</b> 2/7 HALF GALLON ROUND	<b>CALIFORNIA RED PLUMS</b> 79¢ POUND	<b>ASSORTED FLAVORS RED ROCK DRINKS</b> 59¢ 2 LITER BOTTLE	
<b>CRINKLE CUT PIGGY WIGGLY POTATOES</b> 99¢ 2 LB. BAG	<b>EXCEDRIN TABLETS</b> \$2.99 44 CT. TWIN PACK	<b>PACKED IN OIL OR WATER PIGGY WIGGLY CHUNK TUNA</b> 2/79¢ 6.5 OZ. CAN	<b>ASSORTED HUNT'S SPAGHETTI SAUCE</b> 79¢ 24-27.5 OZ. CAN

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Size Settings, 3 Temp. Settings. Compare \$388  
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## SPORTS

Views from....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our little Boston Bull Terrier gets to go outside just about any time he wants to, but recently he has begun coming back to the back door more than a little dirty after his mid-morning outing. He gets dirty the same time every day, and after a short spanking always has to get a bath before he can come back inside. I know that dogs are pretty smart, and I can't help but wonder if this little rascal has figured out that the easiest way to get a cool, soothing bath is to get dirty.

## THE WEEK IN SPORTS....

\*\*\* The All-Star tournaments came to an end for the various baseball teams from Elba last weekend, as both of the Elba Americans' teams were eliminated on Saturday night. The Dixie Minor Americans made it all the way to the finals of their sub-district tournament before falling to the Enterprise Nationals, and really got the Elba fans excited as they almost earned a spot in this week's district tournament. The Americans won three straight games to open the tourney, but then fell twice to the Enterprise Nationals and had to settle for second in the six-team tourney. The Dixie Minor Americans really played hard, and represented their league, and Elba, very well! The Dixie Youth Americans claimed one win over in their sub-district tournament and left disappointed after an upset loss to Samson/Kinston. This group worked hard in practice and played well in their opening two games, but found out the hard way that every game counts, especially in a tournament, and were eliminated after just three games. The Elba National League All-Star teams both failed to get a win, but both played well and gave their fans plenty to cheer about. The Dixie Minor Nationals lost games to the teams that placed 1-2 in their sub-district tournament, and played hard and played to win in both of their games, while the Dixie Youth Nationals were ahead heading into the sixth inning in both of its tournament games, only to lose both games. The Nationals were as good as any team in their tournament, they simply couldn't get a break late in the games, when it counted the most. All the Elba All-Star teams are to be commended for their hard work and play in the tournaments, and I think they all represented our leagues very well. I am proud of all the players and coaches on all the teams!

\*\*\* The Alabama Recreation and Parks Association's "State Softball Tournament" will take place this weekend up in Alexander City, and for the first time ever Elba will have two teams taking part. The 10 and Under "All-Stars" and "16 and Under" All-Stars both earned state tournament berths with their finishes in the District Tournaments, and both teams are really looking forward to competing at the state level. The competition will be tough, but the experience of playing in a state tournament will be something that will make all the girls better players down the line. Good luck ladies!

\*\*\* Now that the seasons are all but over for the youth teams in Elba, the plans are back on the drawing board to build two new baseball fields at Legion Field and two new tee-ball fields at Hawkins-Williams Park. Mayor Grimes stated last week that it was his goal to have all four fields open by the 2001 season, and if achieved, it will give all the baseball leagues in town their own fields on which to play, and practice. More fields have been needed for years, and it looks like they are getting closer to a reality than ever before.

\*\*\* The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation is trying to organize a swim team for the 2001 season, and all the kids in Elba that want to be a part of the team should sign up now at the Rec Center, or at the City Pool. All the kids that sign up might not make the competitive team this year, but they will get to be a part of the team and practice to get better as the years go by. The Elba pool is a competition pool, complete with racing lanes, and maybe next summer it will host a meet. Okay swimmers, now is your chance.

\*\*\* In closing, I would like to commend all the parents and supporters of the various All-Star teams from Elba that have competed over the past few weeks at the various tournaments. Those in attendance have been vocal in their support of the players and coaches, and it has been great to see the Elba stands filled at just about every game. The players know it when the help support, and this summer it was that support that helped the teams win more games than ever. After you give the players a hug, pat yourself on the back, you deserve it.

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In Dixie Minor sub-district tournament

## Elba Americans settle for second

The Elba Americans' dreams of a sub-district championship fell one win short last week as they were defeated in the championship game of the Sub-District Dixie Minor Baseball Tournament, in Elba.

The Enterprise Nationals claimed five straight wins after an opening loss to claim the tournament title, while the Elba Americans placed second in the six-team tourney.

Following are highlights of the Elba Americans tournament action:

ELBA AMERICANS 18  
ELBA NATIONALS 5

The Elba Americans pulled out to an early 6-0 lead and never looked back to defeat the Elba Nationals, 18-5, in opening round action. The Americans managed only one hit in the sixth inning as they took advantage of seven walks, but that hit was a bases-loaded double by Matthew Brunson that gave the Americans the big early lead. A two-out single by Cody Arnold was a key hit as the Americans upped their lead to 9-0 in the top of the third, while a single by John Jared highlighted a four-run fifth inning as the Americans extended their lead to 13-3. The Nationals scored two runs in their half of the fifth to stay alive, but the Americans added five runs in the top of the sixth to blow the game open. Key hits in the sixth inning explosion were doubles by Gage Nalley, Corey Parker and Cody Arnold. Cody Arnold got 2 hits and scored 4 runs to lead the Americans at the plate.

ELBA AMERICANS 9  
E'PRISE AMERICANS 8

The Elba Americans scored two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to escape just behind the Enterprise Americans 9-8, in second round winner's bracket action. The Elba Americans pulled ahead 1-0 in the bottom of the first when a one-out single by Gage Nalley knocked in Don Rhoades, then moved ahead 2-0 in the second after a lead-off triple by Cody Arnold and three straight walks. Enterprise cut the lead to 2-1 in its half of the third, only to see the Elba Americans answer with two runs to stretch their lead to 4-1. The third inning fireworks came with two outs, when Trey Martin singled, then trotted home on a two-run homer by Gage Nalley. Enterprise combined two hits with two walks and two errors to plate five runs in the top of the fourth to grab a 6-4 lead, but the Elba Americans had the answer and promptly scored three runs in their half of the frame to regain the lead at 7-6. A two-run double by Cody Arnold was a key hit in the fourth inning rally, while Bradley Wilson walked and later stole home to give the Elba Americans their final run of the inning. Enterprise regained the lead at 8-7 in the top of the sixth, however, it only set up the Elba Americans' sixth inning hero-



ELBA DIXIE MINOR AMERICANS...placed second in last week's Dixie Minor Sub-District 3 Baseball Tournament. The Americans claimed wins over the Elba Nationals, Enterprise Americans and Geneva, before falling in the championship game to the Enterprise Nationals.

ies, as Corey Parker reached on a walk, Dimetrio Tyson reached on an error, and both later crossed the plate as Parker scored when Bradley Wilson was hit by a pitch, and Tyson raced home on a game-winning rbi single by Matthew Brunson. Gage Nalley had two hits, including a two-run homer, to lead the Elba Americans at the plate, while Cody Arnold added 2 hits, and Corey Parker and Dimetrio Tyson both added one hit and scored two runs.

ELBA AMERICANS 17  
GENEVA 9

The Elba Americans remained undefeated with an impressive 17-9 win over Geneva, in the finals of the winner's bracket. The Americans wasted little time taking the lead in the top of the first as Gage Nalley ripped a one-out double to drive in the first run of the night, and Matt McCormick and Bradley Wilson also came through with rbi singles as the Americans grabbed a quick 3-0 lead. Geneva answered the Americans' early uprising by moving ahead 5-3 in the second inning. However, the Elba Americans plated six runs on six hits in the top of the third to regain the lead at 9-5. Trey Martin and Gage Nalley opened the inning with singles to ignite the fireworks at the plate, while Bradley Wilson and Matthew Brunson both came through with key two-out singles that drove in a total of four runs. Geneva pulled within 9-7 in its half of the frame, only to see the Americans pound out seven hits in the top of the fourth in a six-run explosion that upped the Elba Americans lead to 15-7. The Americans managed to put

15-7! Gage Nalley and Dimetrio Tyson both had rbi singles in the big fourth inning, while Cody Arnold delivered a two-run, two-out double. Trey Martin knocked in the final two runs of the game for the Americans in the top of the sixth, and the Americans easily held on for the big 17-9 win. Trey Martin had 3 hits, scored 3 runs and collected 3 rbi's to lead the Americans at the plate, while Gage Nalley also added 3 hits, scored 3 runs and knocked in two runs. Bradley Wilson added 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs, while also adding 2 hits were Martin McCormick, Dimetrio Tyson, Corey Parker and Richard Cooks.

E'PRISE NATIONALS 6  
ELBA AMERICANS 5

The Elba Americans spotted the Enterprise Nationals an early 6-0 lead and saw a gallant rally fall one run short as they suffered a 6-5 loss. The Enterprise Nationals managed only one hit over the opening two innings, but took advantage of three errors and three walks to plate six runs and grab a quick 6-0 lead. The Elba Americans staged a mild rally in the bottom of the second, as an rbi single by Dimetrio Tyson sparked a two-run inning that cut the lead to 6-2. The Americans continued their rally in the third inning, as Gavin Flowers led-off the inning with a single, and raced home on an rbi double by Don Rhoades. Gage Nalley came through with an rbi single that drove in Rhoades, while Martin McCormick and Corey Parker also delivered rbi singles as the Americans pulled within 6-5. The Americans managed to put

In Dixie Minor tournament

## Elba Nationals fall to top two teams

The Elba Nationals competed in the Sub-District Dixie Minor Baseball Tournament last week in Elba and suffered two quick losses to be eliminated in the double-elimination event. The Nationals opened the tournament against the Elba Americans and suffered an 18-5 loss, then were defeated in the second round by the Enterprise Nationals 12-8. Following are highlights of both games:

ELBA AMERICANS 18  
ELBA NATIONALS 5

The Elba Nationals fell behind 9-0 early and never recovered as they were defeated by the Elba Americans 18-5, in opening round action. The Nationals trailed 9-0 heading into the bottom of the third, but staged a mild rally and cut the deficit to 9-3. Four walks aided the

Nationals' rally, while Chris Thames delivered an rbi single. The Nationals appeared headed for an early loss as the Americans extended their lead to 13-3 in the top of the fifth. However, the Nationals Daniel Kelley and Ryan Roehler both drew walks, and later scored, to cut the lead to 13-5, and kept the game alive! It was the final runs the Nationals could muster, as the Americans poured it on late and claimed the 18-5 win.

E'PRISE NATIONALS 12  
ELBA NATIONALS 8

The Elba Nationals pulled ahead early and battled until the final out, but were eliminated in a 12-8 loss to the Enterprise Nationals. Enterprise jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the top of the first, only to see the Elba Nationals answer with three runs in their half of the frame

to take a 3-1 advantage. A one-out single by Kyle Purvis sparked the early uprising, while Nathan Foster delivered a two-run double and Josh Roberts came through with an rbi single. The Enterprise Nationals grabbed a 7-3 lead in the top of the third, but the Elba Nationals again rallied, and cut the lead to 7-4 on an rbi single by Kyle Purvis. Chris Thames singled and scored in the fourth inning for the Elba Nationals, while LeeHill Shirley ripped a two-run double in the fifth, and Thames added an rbi single in the sixth, as the Elba Nationals battled until the end, only to suffer the 12-8 loss. Jarison Harris, Kyle Purvis, Josh Roberts and Chris Thames all got 2 hits for the Elba Nationals.

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## SPORTS

In Dixie Youth sub-district tournament

## Elba Americans rally past Nationals 6-5

The Elba Dixie Youth Americans competed in the Sub-District Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament last week in Enterprise and claimed one win before being eliminated in the double-elimination event.

The Americans opened the tournament against the highly-favored Enterprise Americans and dropped a 7-1 decision, then bounced back to defeat the Elba Nationals 6-5, before being eliminated by Samson/Kinston 4-2.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

E'PRISE AMERICANS 7  
ELBA AMERICANS 1

An Elba National baserunner takes a lead off third while the Elba American third-baseman keeps him close. The two Elba All-Star teams managed only one win in last week's Dixie Youth Sub-District Baseball Tournament.

## Rudd takes IMCA Midseason Championship

By Mark Chisum

Jeff Rudd had won seven features heading into the IMCA Modified Midseason Championship race, and ended up in victory lane after the 50-lap race at South Alabama Speedway.

Rudd charged into the lead on lap 5 and led the rest of the way to win the extra distance race. Reggie Lett held on to second with Jesse Barnhill third. David Smith and Wayne Schneider rounded out the top 5.

Ed Baker claimed his first Limited Late model victory. Baker led all 35 laps to claim the victory. Heath Mills finished second with Mike Henderson finished third. Royce Johnston was fourth and Ronnie Strawder fifth.

In a battle of Davis's, Mark Davis dominated the Super Stock feature, leading all 25 laps. Charles Davis was second with Mickey Davis third. The Davis's are not related. Tommy Adams was fourth

The Elba Americans quieted the big bats of the Enterprise Americans throughout the game, but never got anything going at the plate themselves as they lost their tournament opener 7-1, on Thursday afternoon. Enterprise managed to score two runs on only three hits over the opening three innings off Elba Americans pitcher Timothy Jackson, but took advantage of shaky fielding to plate three runs on only two hits in the fourth inning and opened up a 5-0 lead. The Enterprise lead went to 7-0 in the fifth, and while the Elba Americans did get on the scoreboard in the sixth

when Abe Childs ripped an rbi single that drove in Nathan Calhoun. However, it was too little, too late, as the Enterprise Americans held on for the 7-1 win. Brad Sullivan and Abe Childs led the Americans at the plate.

ELBA AMERICANS 6  
ELBA NATIONALS 5

The Elba Americans rallied to score six runs in their final two at-bats Friday afternoon to edge past the Elba Nationals 6-5, in losers bracket action. The Americans managed only two hits over the first four innings as the Nationals played near perfect defense behind the pitching of Stephen Hines. However, the Americans came to life at the plate in the fifth inning and sparked by back-to-back doubles by Drew Parker and Lonzo Cooks, and singles by Brad Sullivan and Nathan Calhoun, plated two runs to cut the lead to 5-2. The Americans had a chance to cut even more into the Nationals lead as they put runners on second and third with no outs, but failed to score either runner. Trey Grantham led off the bottom of the sixth with a double to keep

the Americans hopes alive, and raced home to cut the lead to 5-3 when Juan Starks ripped a one-out triple in the gap in left-center field. An rbi single by Mason Guley pulled the Americans within 5-4, and Guley came around to score on a fielder's choice off the bat of Drew Parker to tie the score at 5-5. Lonzo Cooks came to the plate with two outs and runners on second and third, and promptly delivered a game winning double to give the Americans the exciting 6-5 win. Lonzo Cooks had two doubles to lead the Americans at the plate, while Brad Sullivan, Mason Guley and Abe Childs all added 2 hits.

SAMSON/KINSTON 4  
ELBA AMERICANS 2

The Elba Americans saw their trip through the losers bracket come to a surprising end Saturday night when they fell to Samson/Kinston 4-2. A long home-run gave Samson/Kinston the early momentum, while the Americans simply never got anything going at the plate or in the field, and suffered the loss. Mason Guley and Abe Childs led Elba at the plate.

In Dixie Youth tournament

## Sixth inning blues spell defeat for Elba Nationals

The Elba Nationals competed in the Sub-District Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament last week in Enterprise and suffered a fatal case of the "sixth inning blues," as they twice carried leads into the final inning, only to fall both times in the sixth inning rallies by their opponents.

The Nationals opened the tournament late Thursday night and fell to the Enterprise Nationals 7-6, then were eliminated on Friday afternoon by the Elba Americans 6-5.

Following are highlights of both games:

E'PRISE NATIONALS 7  
ELBA NATIONALS 6

The Elba Nationals carried a 6-5 lead into the sixth inning, but couldn't hold on Thursday afternoon as the Enterprise Nationals rallied to escape with a wild 7-6 win. The Elba Nationals plated two runs in the bottom of the first to catch Enterprise at 2-2, then placed three runs on three hits in the fourth inning to stun Enterprise by taking a 5-4 advantage. The Nationals carried the lead into the sixth, only to see Enterprise rally and score the winning runs in its final at-bat. Adam White, Mark Windham and Stephen Hines led the Nationals in

ELBA AMERICANS 6  
ELBA NATIONALS 5

The Elba Nationals appeared to have a win the bag after pulling out to a 5-0 lead in the top of the fifth inning, but once again failed to hold on and post the victory as the Elba Americans staged a furious rally to claim a wild 6-5 win. A lead-off single by Adam White and a near-perfect bunt by Luke Simmons sparked the Nationals to an early 2-0 lead in the top of the first, and it was White that also provided the third inning fireworks as he delivered a two-out double that drove in Heath Hollis and Chance Winters to give the Nationals a 4-0 lead! The Nationals took advantage of three American errors to stretch their lead to 5-0 in the top of the fifth, and it looked like the Nationals would escape with a wild 7-6 win. However, the Americans, which had only two hits over the first four innings, bunched four hits with an error in their half of the inning to pull within 5-2, then plated four more runs in the sixth to pull out the wild 6-5 win. Adam White led the Nationals at the plate, while Stephen Hines turned in an excellent performance on the mound.



Elba National 1st baseman Mark Windham (in black) holds on Elba American baserunner LaRay Williams (in white) during second round action in last week's Dixie Youth Sub-District Baseball Tournament. The Americans scored four runs in their final at-bat to claim an exciting 6-5 win over the Nationals.



OUT AT FIRST...An Elba National batter is out at first as Elba American first-baseman D.J. Stinson reaches for the throw.

Let's Go...  
Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

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## Youth football registration to continue through July in Elba

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that "Youth Football Registration" will continue through Friday, July 28, for boys participating in Midget, Terminate and Pee Wee football leagues. Football registration will be held at this time due to the Tri-County Youth Football League beginning practice in August, and to insure that all players receive properly fitted equipment. All players that complete football registration during the registration period will be placed on a team.

Registration is \$20 for the first child and \$15 for each additional child, and will be accepted through June 23 at the Elba Recreation Office located at 764 North Claxton Avenue, in Elba. Football players that have not participated in the league before are asked to bring a copy of their birth certificate. For additional information call the Elba Recreation Department office at 897-6833.

Boys ages 7-8 before August 1, 2000, will be placed in the Midget League, while boys ages 9-10 before August 1 will be in the Terminate League, and boys ages 11-12 before August 1 will compete in the Pee Wee League.

Other teams in the Tri-County Youth Football League include Opp, Andalusia, Red Level, Straughn, New Brockton and Florida.

## Cheerleader registration now underway for girls ages 7-12

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that registration for cheerleaders for the Tri-County Youth Football League will continue through Friday, July 28. Cheerleader registration will be held at this time to help parents and sponsors order cheerleader uniforms and equipment for the squads, and to insure the squads are prepared at the first game of the season. The season will begin in September, and it is very important that everyone register now!

Girls ages 7-8 before August 1 will cheer in the Midget League, while girls ages 9-10 will cheer in the Terminate League, and girls ages 11-12 will cheer in the Pee Wee League. Registration is \$10 per person and will be taken at the Elba Recreation office at 764 North Claxton Avenue, in Elba. Parents will be notified of a parents meeting and the dates of the cheerleader camp for registered cheerleaders. A t-shirt size will be taken at registration for a shirt to be worn at the cheerleader clinic.

For more information call the Elba Recreation office at 897-6833.

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